GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3792
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2015
e-Visa on Arrival
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Singh Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of visa on arrival facility provided to citizens of various countries by the Government along with the names of countries to which the said facility has been extended;

(b) whether an increase has been registered in the arrival of the tourists in the country in the wake of visa on arrival facility;

(c) if so, the increase registered therein and the names of States in which the increase is more;

(d) the names of the countries which have reciprocated this facility for Indian citizens; and

(e) the details of safeguards taken in the interest of national security while issuing e-visa?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) : The Government of India has launched e-Tourist Visa (old name-Tourist Visa on arrival enabled by electronic travel authorization) facility on 27.11.2014 with a view to facilitate foreign tourists visiting India. Initially, the scheme was introduced in 43 countries. Till now, the scheme has been extended to 113 countries. The names of these countries are attached as Annexure-I.

(b) & (c): Since launch of the scheme approximate 4,90,974 e-Visas have been issued under this scheme. At present in e-Tourist Visa scheme entry of Tourists is facilitated through 16 Indian Airports. Airport wise entry of Tourists on e-Tourist Visa is given in Annexure-II.
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(d): As per the information available names of countries/territories who have either extended the facility of visa-on-arrival or require no visa or have extended e-visa facility to Indian passport holders as under :-

"Bahrain, Bhutan, Bolivia, British Vergin Islands, Combodia, Cape Verde, Comoros, Cook Islands, Code d"Ivoire, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, E1 Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Georgia, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Laos, Macau, Madagascar, Malaysia(Visa on arrival on certain conditions), Maldives, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia, Moldova, Monsterrat, Myanmar, Nepal, Niue, Palau, Reunion Island, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & The Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Somalia, Sri Lanka (Electronic Travel Authorization), Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad & Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, Vanuatu, Zambia and Zimbabwe"

(e): The concerned Security Agencies are taking due care while issuing e-visa. There is provision of online registration and profiling of Tourists. At arrival Port, biometrics of the Tourists are also being captured.
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